MODERN TIMES

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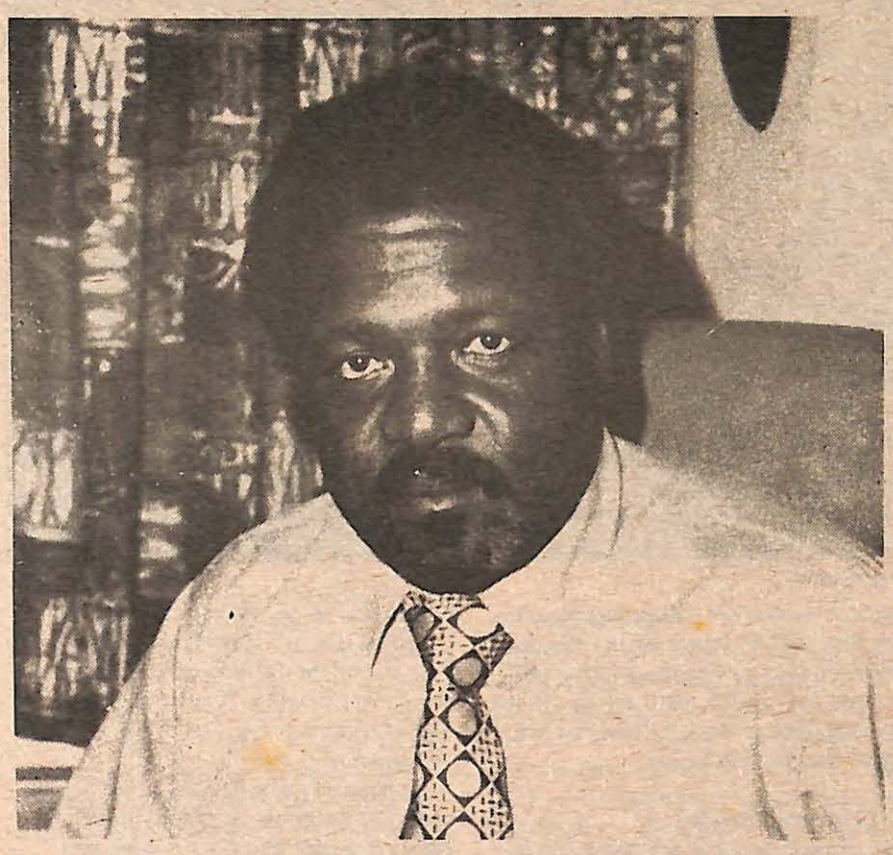
Vol. V, No. 17 — **New Haven** — February 15-28, 1975

Waller's Faculty Turns Against Him



Nick Heyer

Dr. Waller

by Edw. Breuler
Modern Times Staff

Since South Central Community College opened its doors in 1968, it has been both an institution devoted to the education of area residents and a den of chaos and confusion. South Central, has a history of controversy surrounding its programs, faculty and its regional accreditation(which was denied on the grounds of inappropiate facilities). And now, its president, Dr.William DeHomer Waller, is currently under investigation for incompetence and corruption.

He is under investigation by the Community Collge Board of Trustees in one law suit and by the Connecticut Education Association in another.

The Faculty Association of South Central brought seven charges against South Central and more specialficlly against Waller.

Charge 1. South Central's procedures for appointments, promotions, and terminations do not conform with State Regulations.

In the Personnel Policies of the Board of Trustees, it states, "...the President of the College shall so inform a faculty member within ten(10) days when his promotion and/or tenure is or is not recommended." It has been charged that Waller did not follow these rules of informing faculty members being promoted or fired. Waller is also accused of ignoring his own guidelines and those of the school's hiring guidelines. In 1974, seven faculty members were fired and another six were hired without Waller's giving the faculty notice. Action by the CEA has prevented Waller from firing the 7 faculty members. However, it has not prevented Waller from making promotions, dispensing favors, hiring people without any faculty consultation.

Charge 2. Using administrative powers to deny adequate instructional materials.

The charge states that Federal funds as well as state funds were spent to benefit certain areas of the school at the expense of others. For instance, the science dept. is still not able to replace a microscope that was stolen in 1972 while other departments have received new materials as well as replacements.

Charge 3. The SCCC President is also charged with ignoring the work of authorized college committees and acting unilaterally

When he began at SCCC, Waller arranged for a weekend retreat at Grand Lake Lodge where administration and faculty members worked out rules for hiring, accountability, and responsibility. Waller, since that time, is accused of ignoring those rules. Too many examp les were given to be listed. A few of them are: Dr. Waller, for three consecutive years, set up college evaluation committees to work out means of evaluating students, faculty, and administration. Each year reports were drawn up and ignored, and the tasks were reassigned to similar committees. In every department, faculty members have been hired without the agreed upon consultation with the members of the department. In some cases, faculty members were consulted, but after the hiring procedure was finished. Waller is alleged to have ignored even the recommendations of the "Management Survey", which was designed to end problems at SCCC once and for all.

The study recommended that a long range plan be instituted for the school. That was in 1973. These recommendations were turned down until 1975, when

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Alternatives to Suspension.....page 7

At Press Time:

On Tueday, February 11, 1975, a meeting was held in the Hall of Records in New Haven to discuss School Board President George Barbarito's proposed teacher cutbacks. In addition to the article below see page 6 to find out the latest on the continuing struggle to save education in New Haven.

Barbarito OK's Cutbacks For N.H.School Quality

by Matt Borenstein
Modern Times Staff

Superintendent Barbarito's announcement that he was considering the elimination of 90 teaching positions for next year has evoked sharp response. Teacher and parent groups are planning meetings and public demonstrations to protest such plans for cutbacks in the city's educational system.

The dollar amount that the city spends on public education has not changed for the past three years. At the same time, inflation (particularly the cost of supplies) has risen by over 30%. Apparently, the Board of Education (and its agent Barbarito) believes that the Board of Finance will not give them a cent more than last year.

Bleak Picture

The Superintendent of Schools paints a bleak picture for the future of education in New Haven. Most Federal funds for education have been cut or eliminated. Consequently, programs such as Focus, Bi-Lingual Education, and High School in the Community have uncertain futures.

For the past two years, many open teaching positions have gone unfilled. While the supposed hiring freeze imposed by Barbarito has been ignored by principals with good arguments or political clout downtown, some estimates have the teaching staff down by about 10% over the past two years!

While inflation has soared at a rate of 30% over the last three years, teachers have only had salary increases totalling 7½%. The fact that the budget has been fixed has meant a 30% reduction in supplies and facilities for New Haven teachers and students.

Facing the Problem?

How is the Board of Education facing this financial crisis in the city's educational system? First, it is taking a hard line at the bargaining table with teachers. It appears that the Board wants to stall New Haven teachers into a strike (and maybe save money by not paying teachers).

Second, Superintendent Barbarito claims that class size does not make a difference and wants to cut the teaching staff by about 10%.

Third, both the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools are not about to rock the political ship and ask the mayor for the funds needed for a quality education.

Fourth, the Board of Education con-

see BARBARITO page 7

Steve Kass

Will this teacher have her job next year? Who will these students turn to for an education?

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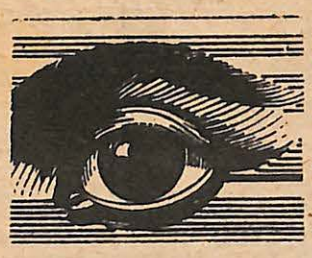


eye on the board

Let 's Bid Bart Goodbye In November

by Andrew J. Esposito
Modern Times Staff

The magical, mystical Bartholomew Guida slide show played its yearly one-night stand at the Aldermanic Chambers on Monday, February 3. Also known as the State of the City speech, the performance was depressing from several points of view. Primarily, it presented a depressing view of the coming year as the city struggles to provide services with the economy gripped by a deep recession.

As gloomy as Guida's narrative was, it is more depressing to realize that he has no plan to see New Haven through this bleak time. He spoke only in generalities. In fact, a large portion of his 40-minute address was spent patting his administration on the back for its self-proclaimed "successes." Yet, when you reconsider it later, you come to realize there was little of substance in the Mayor's talk.

Dire Hints

The most disturbing news was saved for the very end. Guida hinted at the possibility of some city job layoffs. Indeed, such threats have already been made in several city departments. The Board of Education is the most notable example. They have used the layoff threat as a strategy during negotiations for a new contract with the city's teachers. It seems that, as Guida decries unemployment in the private sector, his appointees are about to cause it in the public sector.

Interestingly, although Guida praised his administration's accomplishments, he neglected to mention that his budget for the current fiscal year will run almost a quarter of a million dollars in the red. This fact, coupled with the depressing picture for 1975, makes it all the more necessary to find additional sources of city income.

To reach this goal, New Haven should launch an all-out effort to tax Yale and other tax-exempt institutions.

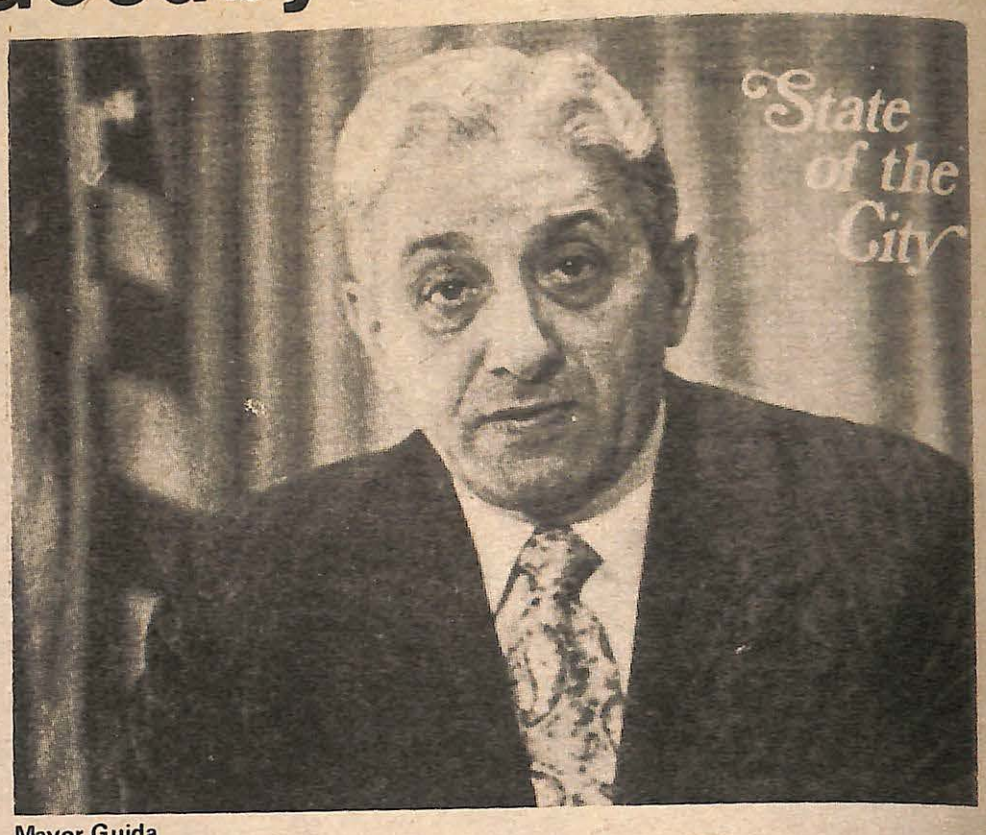
On this front, the Guida administration has produced more rhetoric than results. However, the time for rhetoric has passed. The city must put pressure on the state legislature to change Connecticut law and enable cities and towns to tax institutions such as Yale.

Fat Can be Cut

In reality the city probably will not be able to tax Yale in the coming year. However, New Haven can reduce the size of its deficit by cutting some very real fat. That fat is in Guida's own executive branch, not in the branches which provide direct services to the people of the city.

Also, with the highest rate of unemployment in over 30 years, this is no time to cut working people from the city payroll. The political hacks in city hall are a different story. They drain the city treasury and contribute nothing. It only stands to reason that they should be the first to go. Thus, instead of threatening teachers, sanitation workers, fire fighters, and police, Guida should reduce his own administrative waist line.

Sadly, this is too much to hope for. Guida is an old machine politico who will protect his retainers. Also, the Mayor is stuck on the old solutions. We all know they will no longer work. We need new methods of raising money that will distribute the burden more evenly among all New Haveners. And, we will not get those methods from Guida.



Mayor Guida

New Leadership Needed

There might be some problems facing the city that no one can solve. However, when a mayor cannot come up with any new proposals, there is only one thing left to do. Fire him. We have the option every two years of giving Guida his walking papers. It is time to exercise it.

The conditions facing New Haven are too critical to be left in the hands of an unskilled mayor. It is highly unlikely that any of the existing political parties can come up with a "good" candidate. The only alternative is to think about an independent party.

Such a party would have a true "grass roots" orientation. It would unite all working people and poor people and not attempt to divide them along ethnic or racial lines. And give all its members a say in how it is run. For we do not need another boss-controlled party.

To form such a party and run candidates will not be an easy task. It will require uniting many different people. Yet, it *is* well worth the effort to try and establish it. The alternative is still more years of unresponsive and ineffectual city government. This is really a depressing prospect.

Action Needed to Keep Sound Sound

by Aurie Jo Salfen

Long Island Sound presents a tantalizing source of conflict to the people who live around it. By being possibly the region's most important natural resource, it attracts urban development which threatens the quality of that resource. The waters of the Sound receive tremendous amounts of municipal and industrial wastes, yet still a great variety and number of birds, fish, and other forms of life are supported.

The problem exists in that the wildlife of the Sound is slowly being killed off and the waters in some areas are no longer available for swimming, fishing, and other recreational uses. Despite various programs from every level of government that are aimed at cleaning up the water and the shoreline, we may anticipate lowered future usefulness and deterioration.

Billions of Dollars Needed

The Federal Water Pollution Act of 1972 established a national goal of swimmable, fishable waters to be reached by 1983. Unfortunately, the estimated billions of dollars required to attain this goal do not seem to be forthcoming. Therefore, we can expect that the more severely polluted urban harbors and rivers (including sections of Long Island Sound) will have less interest and money paid to them in favor of more easily remedied, less badly polluted waters.

Management of the shoreline and establishment of priorities concerning the shoreline are essential for using the monies that are available. Proper treatment of municipal wastes and the curbing of sewage overflow is or should be a top priority. Also important is monitoring the effectiveness of these waste treatment programs. The clean up of industrial wastes requires strict enforcement of programs which are in effect.

Further Efforts Needed

As important as the cleaning of already polluted waters is the maintenance of the remaining unpolluted water and air. As this region continues to develop, the demand will increase for use of the still-clean high quality waters and land. If care is not taken to protect this water and land, the overall quality of the environment will be further downgraded. Management of flood plains, wetlands, and erosion-prone slopes is necessary to prevent water pollution damages. The streams and estuaries which still have excellent water quality should be zoned by the states as no-discharge areas to preserve fishing and recreational use.

A deliberate effort of the presently existing agencies of government will be needed in order to direct federal and private activity toward the conservation and wise management of the Sound. The Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 offers an especially good opportunity for the people of this region to secure effective shoreline and water management.

State, county, and local government, citizens, business, and federal agencies need to come together in a harmonious program which will allow each to contribute what he does best. It must be remembered that the Sound is one resource. Any program, unified or fragmented, can be self-defeating if it merely stimulates sound shoreline development and generates another round of pollution.

Nick Heyer

One of Long Island Sound's major polluters is our own UI. Here we look past UI to New Haven Harbor and the Sound.

Govt.-Workers Can Now Collect

by Matt Borenstein
Modern Times Staff

As a result of emergency legislation signed by President Ford on December 26, public employees are now eligible for unemployment compensation. This one-year law went into effect when the national unemployment rate shot over 6%.

The legislation puts 12 million workers(including 8.5 million public employees), who were not previously covered, under unemployment compensation for at least a year.

According to the U.S. Dept. of Labor Statistics, over 90,000 teachers cannot find work. In addition, each day new layoffs of city and state employees are announced.

In order to qualify you must at least fulfill the following requirements:

(1) Have had a job for which you were paid wages during the most recent 52 weeks.

(2) Have worked no less than 15 weeks out of the most recent 52 weeks. Wages and time must meet the requirements of the Connecticut unemployment compensation law.

Weekly benefits(for up to 26 weeks) will be the same as for private employment. Claims should be filed at the nearest unemployment compensation office where the last employment took place.

If you think you might be eligible, it wouldn't hurt you to check with the nearest unemployment office as soon as possible.

Does the State Have a Right to Name You?

by Connecticut Women's Educational and Legal Fund, Inc.

When a young couple gets married today and both decide to keep their own names for all purposes, what do they name their children? In New Haven, according to Attorney Ann Hill of the Connecticut Women's Educational and Legal Fund, many such couples have decided to give the children both the mother's and the father's last names in hyphenated form.

"For example, Mary Smith and John Jones marry, and when they have a child, they name the baby Leslie Smith-Jones," Hill explained. "The parent's reason for this is that each parent--father and mother-wants to give their child their name, which is an important part of their identity. Further, as the child grows older, the parents hope that the child will be able to share in and identity with both parents equally. This fosters a new concept of parenthood for parents and child alike--mother and father wish to share equally in raising their child."

Connecticut Says No

The State Health Commissioner, Douglas Lloyd, and the State Registrar of Vital Statistics, Hal Burdo, do not agree with Hill's analysis. In fact they have taken the position that birth certificates with surnames that combine the mother's and the father's names, be rejected. What this means for a young New Haven resident and his parents is that his birth on September 24, 1974, has never been recorded. "To the State of Connecticut our son Benjamin does not exist," declared Marshall Wolff, father of the baby with no birth certificate. Benjamin's mother, Janice Abarbanel, finds the State's position "outrageous." "Other parents have the right to name their children what they want. Why is that right being denied us?" asked Abarbanel.

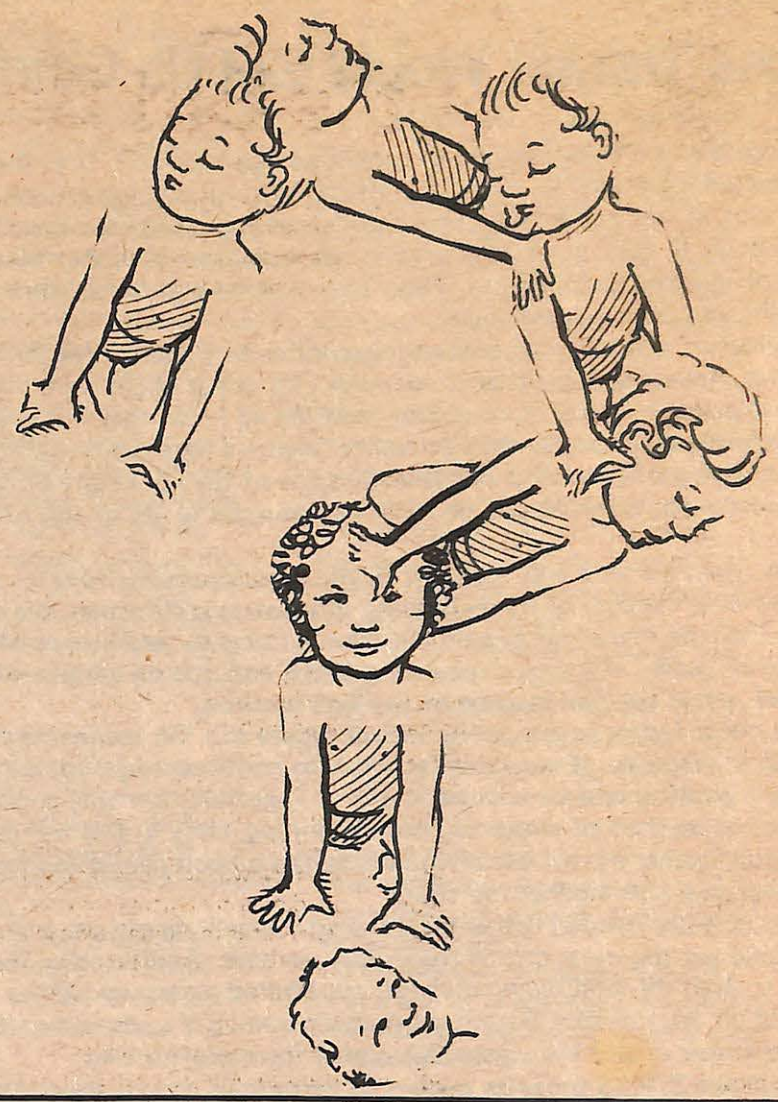
Mr. Wolff and his attorneys addressed that very question to Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Burdo in several communications. Mr. Burdo declared simply that he would not accept a birth certificate that included the mother's surname as part of the child's surname. Commissioner Lloyd has not given any reason for the State policy. He referred the question to the Attorney General's office nearly six months ago, but no decision has been issued to date. When Mr. Wolff pressed Burdo for some reason why the mother's name could not be used, Burdo indicated that only "illegitimate" children took their mother's name.

"Aside from the fact that I do not accept the concept of 'illegitimate children,' that is not an issue in our case, as Benjamin has both his mother's and his father's name for a last name," said Wolff. "His name is Benjamin Abarbanel-Wolff. That is our choice. And we have been given no valid reason by any State official why this name is not acceptable."

OK for the Courts

It was just last year that a Superior Court judge, in a case entitled *Custer vs. Bonadies,* reaffirmed the common law right of women in Connecticut to use whatever name they choose, as long as they use the name consistently and in good faith. "My name is legal in this State, just as legal as my husband's,"

see STATE page 6



open line

Two Resist F.B.I. Invasion

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a statement released by Ellen Grusse and Terry Turgeon, two New Haven women who were recently called before a Federal Grand Jury after refusing to answer questions by the FBI.

We have been called to testify before a Federal Grand Jury in New Haven, Connecticut. From what we have been able to learn, the government intends to ask us questions about two women, Katherine Ann Power and Susan Edith Saxe, who are accused of participating in a bank robbery in Boston in 1970. They are said to be anti-war activists who allegedly robbed a bank to finance anti-war activities. They have never been arrested and the government apparently intends to question us about them and about a number of other people as well.

Originally the FBI came to talk to us about these women and we refused to speak with them. Our refusal to speak with FBI agents was based upon a number of reasons. We have absolute moral belief that the investigation the government is engaged in will violate our basic constitutional and human rights. We believe that the right to privacy and confidentiality in human relationships goes beyond those traditionally recognized confidences such as attorney-client, spouse to spouse, doctor to patient , etc. We believe that every person has the right to keep their affairs private without intervention by government agents.

Risk of Losing Rights

We have also seen how the government, acting both through the FBI and the grand juries, has used inquiries such as this to harass and gather information on political leftists and feminists in recent years. Any person who talks with FBI agents or to a grand jury runs the risk of giving up their constitutional right to remain silent and having what they say used in some twisted way against them or their friends or comrades in criminal charges.

This abuse of power affects anyone and everyone, regardless of political beliefs. In effect, anyone can be subject to harassment and even jailed for not answering even the most personal and/or irrelevant questions about themselves or friends' acquaintenance. This is a total invasion of privacy and should not be tolerated. These tactics have also been used by the government to create distrust, confusion and disunity among people and break up communities of political groups and women.

Brought Before Grand Jury

As a result of our refusal to speak with FBI agents we were almost immediately subpoenaed to appear before the Grand Jury. We were given less than 24 hours notice of our appearance, which is a common government tactic to bring people before the grand jury unprepared and in ignorance of their legal rights. It is also our belief that the government has no legitimate reason to call us before the Grand Jury, that they have no basis for investigating any criminal activity in the State of Connecticut, and that they are just using the Grand Jury as a tool of the FBI. This is a complete perversion of the historical purpose of grand juries, which was to protect citizens from arbitrary government accusation. However, we are also aware that our present government has consistently used grand jury proceedings as a weapon against people.

We are in need of strong, visible support from women's groups, alternative communities and other political groups at this time. Outside of these communities we are opposed, degraded and dehumanized both on personal and collective levels. The existence of such communities is a threat to the patriarchal power structure and it is in their interest to infiltrate these communities to create fear, mistrust and division.

Forced to Play the Game

What makes us most angry is that we have been forced into a position of playing the Man's games ,the rules of which deny us our basic rights, dignity and responsibility and control over our own lives. In reality it is not very different from the every day life of every women living with the fear of rape, brutalization by men, defining herself through her "man," etc. We feel that giving information to FBI agents gives in to the power that they hold over us, a power that perpetuates the women's role and the position of all oppressed peoples.

Any witness who refuses to testify and answer questions before a grand jury runs a substantial risk of being jailed for contempt of court. Although we fear the complete loss of feedom and dignity that this possibility holds for us, we feel strongly that it is imperative to insist on our fundamental rights and to halt the chain of invasions that is perpetuated by cooperation with government abuse of power.

Ellen Grusse and Terry Turgeon may be contacted in care of our lawyers, Williams, Avery and Wynn, 265 Church St. New Haven, Ct., 06510, (203) 562-9931.

HARRY MAGDOFF

MARXIST ECONOMIST. EDITOR OF MONTHLY REVIEW. AUTHOR AGE OF IMPERIALISM. DYNAMICS OF U.S. CAPITALISM. RECENTLY RETURNED FROM EXTENDED STUDY TOUR OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

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editorial

Mass Transit Would Get Us Going

There are two things we should acknowledge about oil. One, there is a limited supply of it. And, two, the price of oil is going to remain high. Out of this reality has come ever increasing profits for the oil companies. In fact, as of now, Exxon has replaced GM as the nation's most prosperous corporation. Thus, the oil cartel gets richer while working and poor people suffer.

President Ford's way of conserving gasoline is to place a tax on oil imports. His rationale is that if the price of a gallon of gas were made more expensive, less of it would be used. We all know that this line of reasoning is nonsense. For, in reality, workers have cut down on their use of gas as much as possible. Because of the poor state of mass transportation, working people must use their gas to get to and from work.

Also,when we stop and consider all the products made from oil, we can see why the cost of living is going to escalate still further. We all know that the higher costs paid by manufactures to produce goods will simply be passed along to consumers. In the end, the oil barons will prosper, while the real income of workers declines.

The major factor in allocating the oil supply in a fair manner is its limited availability. If we allow its prices to continue to go up, only the very wealthy will be able to afford it. Therefore, the only socially acceptable method of allocating oil is rationing. Only in this way can we prevent a further rip-off of consumers by the oil companies and insure that everyone gets his/her fair share.

What is really needed is free mass transit. Since it would use less oil, we would get the most out of the supply we have. Additionally, we must begin to plan the best ways to use all our limited resources for the good of all our citizens. Sound economic planning is a necessity. We can no longer afford the waste that comes from profiteering.

MODERN TIMES urges its readers to write their congressmen and senators. Tell them you favor rationing oil and support free mass transit. These are only a small steps in the right direction. But ones that need to be taken now.

Volume V Number 17
Circulation 4000

MODERN TIMES welcomes all comments and letters to the editors.

MODERN TIMES

Editorial 441 Chapel Street
Office 562-2510

MODERN TIMES is published by the American Independent Movement (AIM) as its political organ. Work on **MODERN TIMES** is done by volunteers, both members and non-members of AIM. The political views of AIM are given in the editorial. We encourage contributions from the New Haven community in the form of articles and letters.

MODERN TIMES is a paper to tell the story of and by the people of New Haven. We don't get this kind of news from profit-making commercial papers. There is no place else in New Haven where the problems of working men and women are told by them instead of their bosses. There is no place else where the problems of employment and education, and housing and health care are told by the people who have to live with them.

This is the richest country in the world. Yet most of the wealth is used only by a few. We must all work together to claim the wealth we all helped to create. There would be no need to strike for paltry raises, waste our resources and labor on missiles and bombs, or waste the lives of our young men in wars like Vietnam. We would produce what we need, not what is profitable.

The American Independent Movement has been working since 1966 to get people together against the vested interests that run New Haven and the whole country. We want everyone to have good housing, good education, child care centers, recreation areas, decent health care, and decent jobs.

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money talks

Depression Curves May Kill Patient

by Rick Wolff
Modern Times Staff

The United States economy is now in its worst downturn since the Great Depression of the 1930's. President Ford's latest official statements on the economy point to a level 8-10% unemployment, 9-12% rate of price increases, and a continuing slide in the standards of living of most working Americans. This economic crisis is as basic as it is severe. Yet the different plans for solving this crisis promise little hope of success. Some alternatives need to be considered.

President Ford and the Republicans propose a federal tax cut in the form of a 12% rebate on 1974 income taxes. He also proposes a $3 tariff on each imported barrel of oil. The tax rebate is supposed to overcome the recession because consumers can be expected to spend their returned taxes on cars, TV's and other items. The theory is that unemployed workers will be called back to work to produce what consumers are buying. The $3 tariff on oil imports is the way to solve our energy problems. The President hopes higher fuel prices will drive Americans to save energy.

Plan Will Fail

To put it bluntly, the President's plan will most likely fail. His tax cut plan would return $12 to a family of four that earned $5,000 in 1974 while a family that earned $12,500 would get back $157. What is more, the extra gasoline and heating oil costs directly and indirectly paid by the consumers would more than cancel out the tax rebate for most—especially middle and low income—families. Therefore, consumers will likely not buy more, while rising fuel costs will surely worsen inflation.

What is more, the President's tax cuts and increased spending are producing record-high deficits. The treasury will have to borrow billions to cover the excess of spending over tax revenues. This borrowing, the highest in America's peace-time history, will put pressure on interest rates, as government borrowers compete for funds against private borrowers such as people seeking home mortgage money. This threatens to further depress the housing construction industry.

The Democrats want even bigger tax cuts with more going to lower income families. They also oppose the tariff on oil, preferring rationing. While clearly better for working people than Ford's plan, the Democratic proposals run the same risk of pushing up interest rates and worsening the already soaring inflation.

AFL-CIO Program

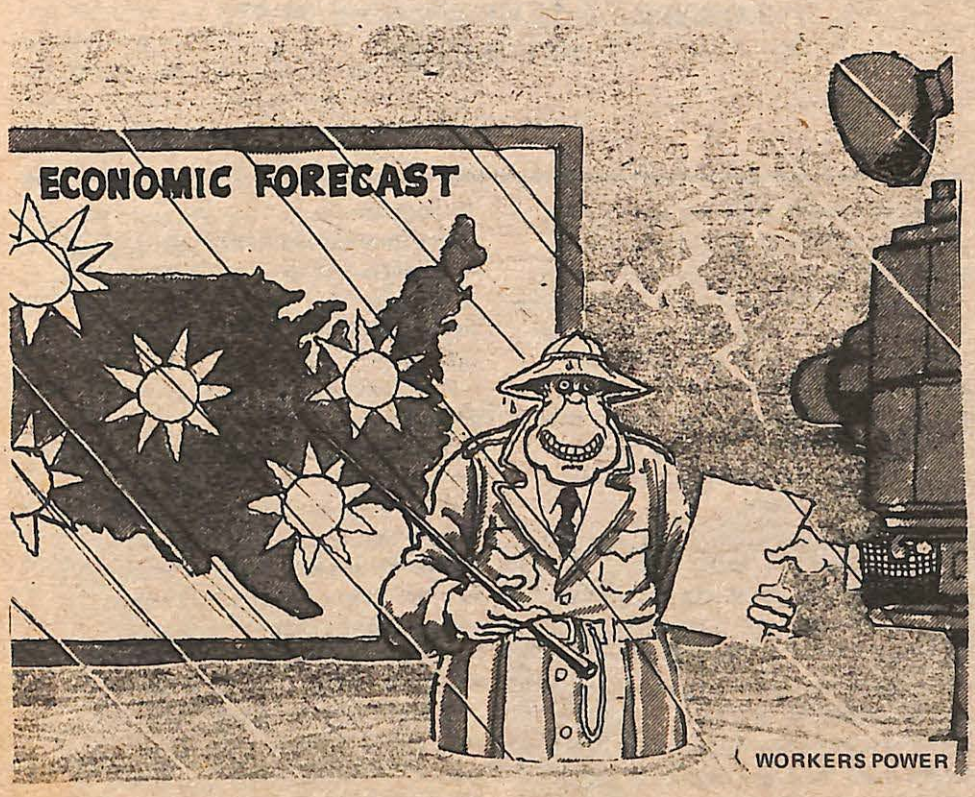
The program of the AFL-CIO General Board, announced on January 23, 1975, is by far the best for the majority of Americans, the working people. It offers not only sizeable tax cuts to middle and lower income families, but also opposes higher oil tariffs and demands massive public employment jobs for the unemployed. The AFL-CIO program does much more for the unemployed—who already number 1 out of every 12 American workers—than either the Democratic or Republican proposals. Yet, the AFL-CIO program risks at the same time provoking an even greater deficit and thus even higher rates of price inflation.

Despite their important differences, the Republican, Democratic and AFL-CIO plans to solve the economic crisis are unfortunately similar in being simply inadequate to the seriousness of the situation. All three admit that at best millions of Americans will be unemployed for the next 2 to 4 years and probably well beyond that. All three plans will certainly keep inflation at record levels. All three plans share in a basic refusal to ask the basic question, which is: "Are we as a nation going to continue to allow private businesses to lay off workers and to raise prices no matter what the consequences to the whole country's economic well-being?" That is the issue.

Other Alternatives

Consider the alternatives. Why not a new law allowing workers to go into court to seek an injunction to prevent a company from either laying off workers or raising its prices on the grounds that the national interest would be harmed? If we had a law like that, would 300,000 auto workers be idle? Would oil or sugar or electric rates have been allowed to jump so high?

The issue is profits, and the right of companies to raise prices or to lay off workers whenever they wish to improve their profit situation. What the American labor movement needs in a crisis as serious as this one is a plan that seriously faces the basic issue. The AFL-CIO plan hinted at these issues, but hesitated to spell them out, probaly in order to avoid offending allies in the Democratic Party. Yet is it not the time for labor and especially labor leaders to come forward with a clear independent position that faces the real issues, something the Republicans and Democrats either can not or dare not do?



"Continued fair and mild with....Hold on ! A bulletin just in.....Partly cloudy....uh..... with a chance of rain!.....uh....."

brass tacks

Pffft! Goes Another Attack on the Air

by Mike Holodnak
Modern Times Staff

Today, the human race faces many day-to-day hazards. We eat, breathe and live in a world of chemicals which if not regulated can destroy us. In an attempt to disclose our daily chemical intake, let's take a look at what hazards effect us all as working people.

Gases from household aerosol cans maydestroy the atmosphere's ozone layer that protects us from solar radiation. The fluorocarbons, known as freon and used as propellents in aerosol products, are non-reactive. But their reaction with sunlight releases florine atoms, which in turn break down ozone molecules.

Two scientists at the University of California, Drs. F.S. Rowland and Mario J. Molina, predicted that if fluorocarbons continued to be produced at the present rate, there may be a depletion of 10-13 percent ozone in 10 years. The result would be a great increase in skin cancer, crop and plant destruction, and eventually doomsday for this planet.

Can Man Disputes Findings

H.R. Shepher, president of Aerosol Techniques, Inc., of Old Gate Lane, Milford, said,"It is important to note that this is a theory. Obviously, those of us in the industry have considerable concerns related to the Rowland-Molina study..."

"However, at this point, all the empirical evidence we have would dispute this," Mr. Shepherd added.

He also stated that as ozone deteriorates in the upper atmosphere, it allows radiation to penetrate to the lower levels where it reacts to make ozone. "There are many chemicals in the atmosphere about which little is known," Mr. Shepherd said.

But two Harvard scientists, Dr. Michael B. McElroy , professor of atmospheric science, and Dr. Steven C. Wofsy, an atmospheric physicist, supported the Rowland-Molina findings with their own study, which used a similar mathematical model. They warned that even if aerosol propellants were banned altogether, depletion of the ozone layer could reach 5 per cent by 1990. This is because gases at sea level take their time to raise and effect the atmosphere.

Another independent study, by three University of Michigan scientists, also emphasized the serious dangers of freon gas.

Prove it!

Mr. Shepherd, who founded Aerosol Techniques, Inc., 20 years ago, said: "The position of these scientists appears to be 'this is our theory and you prove it'.. One who states such hypothesis or theory has the burden of the proof."

Some manufactures of aerosol fluorocarbons have started their own research. But, not surprisingly, they came up with no conclusive proof of their own, only criticism of their critics.

"Connecticut used to be the aerosol capital of the world," Mr. Shepherd said. "Many people make their livelihood today through the industry and it still is very important to the economy of the state."

Although Aerosol Techniques workers have no control over what products they work on,the company appealed to them to help save their jobs by writing to their representatives in Washington, even providing them with stamps, stationary and sample letters.

Motive is Profits.

So, like the cigarette manufacturers who spent millions of dollars defending the safety of cigarettes, the over riding consideration of the industry in the fluorocarbon controversy appears to be economic in nature. With "success" being based on the size of one's assets rather than on the size of one's ethics, the bottom line is, take the money and run.

Just look at the record:

A Swedish physicist, Dr. Hannes Alfen, recently said that plutonium, the highly poisonous radioactive element, produced by nuclear power plants, is being manufactured on a scale that threatens all human life.

Irving J. Selekoff and collegues at the Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City made the original findings that exposure to asbestos causes lung cancers.

Two government studies have found small concentrations of suspected chlorine-induced cancer-causing agents in drinking water in Cincinati and New Orleans. The problem of cancer causing agents may exist in every water system that includes industrial waste, sewage and vegetable matter in the raw water before it is treated with chlorine.

The director of a federal study on auto pollution says catalytic converters on many 1975 cars will cause a pollution problem of their own by producing emissions of sulfuric acid.

Vinyl chloride, which causes a liver cancer known as angiosarcoma, poses a danger to millions who work in or live near plastics industries.

The list of industrial hazards to human life goes on ad nauseam.

Whether life on earth will live or die is in the hands of our industrialists who operate "empirically." By depending upon experience or observation alone, without using science or theory, they predicate their decisions, not on whether disposable products will be beneficial to mankind, but rather on how gigantic will be their profits.

What they are short-sightedly telling us in effect is, "Only after this stuff kills us all will there be enough proof to ban these products."

write on

To The Editors:

Harry Braverman's **Labor and Monopoly Capital: The Degradation of Work in the Twentieth Century (Monthly Reveiw Press $12.50)** is a book which **MODERN TIMES** readers will find of great interest. It is based on the belief that we are living in a time of rapid techological change and of a basic transformation of the nature of work. We must understand both in order to understand the process of social change and to judge the extent to which any specific change is a real step forward, merely apparent, or worse—a step back, a degradation of the work process.

The book describes the origins and recent developments of management; the nature and progress of thescientific—technical revolution, with special attention to machinery: the effect of these on the division and distribution of labor, the life of the worker, and our attitude towards work. After describing the modern corporation, market and the role of the state, the book focuses on the growing clerical and service occupations; new engineering, technical, and scientific jobs and specialized, 'professional' employment. The book ends with a discussion of the nature of work and of skill. All of this is presented in a straight forward way in terms of the experience of workers.

Harry Braverman began his working life as a copper worker in a naval shipyard. The decline of the coppersmith's trade with the substitution of new process and materials forced him into related trades such as pipefitting, sheetmetal work, and layout. He became a journalist, became involved in publishing, and is currently manager of Monthy Reveiw Press. He has lived every inch of the book he has written. It is a moving, though provoking, and ,I believe, important document; useful to anyone involved in the struggle towards Socialism.

Harris Stone.

To The Editors:

Twenty-year old Joanne Little may be put to death because she defended herself against the jail guard who tried to rape her.

Early in the morning on August 27, 1974, Joanne was sleeping in a cell at the Beaufort County, North Carolina jail. She had been there three months awaiting action on her appeal of a breaking and entering conviction.

Joanne, who is black, was the only person in the cell block, and she was guarded solely by white male jailers. Clarence Alligood, a 62 year old farmer and former truck driver, was in charge that night.

Women who have stayed in that jail have said Alligood and others made advances to them. Witnesses will also testify he kept an ice pick in his desk drawer.

With the ice pick in hand, Alligood approached and entered Joanne's cell, where he began his sexual attack. Although she stands 5'3" tall, she fought him off with all her strength. During the struggle, Joanne stabbed Alligood numerous times with his ice pick. In a blur of fear and confusion, she then fled from the jail, later learning that Alligood, found nude from the waist down, had died in her cell.

Joanne was afraid the police would kill her, and after this harrowing series of narrow escapes she decided to give herself up. Through a friend, she contacted Durham attorney Jerry Paul, whose elaborate precautions helped ensure her safe surrender a week later to the State Bureau of Investigation.

She turned herself in just in time since efforts were under way to have her legally declared an outlaw. North Carolina is the only state in the Union which still has such a procedure. It amounts to an instant sentence of death without benefit of trial because **anyone may shoot an outlaw on sight.**

It is not at all certain that Joanne Little will receive a fair trial. Local North Carolina newspapers at first failed to inform their readers that the jailer was found naked from the waist down and that there was clear evidence of sexual activity. Editorials appeared honoring the jailer for "dying in the line of duty," thus prejudicing their readers against Joanne.

In addition, the state medical examiner was prepared to support Joanne's story from his observation of the evidence, but he was not allowed to testify before the grand jury which indicted her.

Furthermore, Joanne is to be tried in Beaufort County. The jury will be selected from people living in neighborhood counties—a statutory requirement which is being challenged as unconstitutional. Pitifully few blacks of either sex are called to serve on juries in these counties. This could badly hurt Joanne, who lives in a region where many white people hold the worst sort of prejudices against black women.

Finally, vital evidence, such as the jailer's clothing, has been scattered among various law enforcement agencies, making it extremely difficult for defense attorneys to locate and have this material examined. Requests that the evidence be kept safely in one place have been denied.

The very right of a woman to defend herself against sexual attack is at stake in this case. Prison conditions for women is another key point. The discriminatory use of the death penalty against poor people and blacks, selection processes which fail to produce juries of true peers, the right of a poor person to an adequate defense...all of these issues will be brought together at Joanne's trial.

Money is needed for Joanne Little's defense . Please send your tax deductible contribution today to the Southern Poverty Law Center, 113 South McDonough St., Mongomery Alabama 36101.

Julian Bond

Community Calendar

Sat. Feb. 15	**Morning Sun School Benefit Dance.** The Human Condition will be playing at this benefit at the Albertus Magnus Student Activity Hall. 9PM-1AM. Donation $2.50. For more info call the Morning Sun - 288-2878.
Wed. Feb. 19 & Sat. Feb. 22	**Conn. Committee Against Inflation & Unemployment** will have a benefit on Wednesday at the York SquareTheatre showing STAVISKY. Reception at 7PM, movie at 8PM. Donation $5. For Tickets call 248-2287. On Saturday this statewide coalition will have an all day conference on how to develope a peoples' program of legislation for fighting inflation and unemployment. At the Yale Divinity School, 9-4PM.
Mon. Feb. 24	**The Courts in New Haven.** A meeting sponsored by the Citizens for Better Correctional Institutions(CBCI) and part of a series exploring Connecticut's corrections system. It's free at the First United Methodist Church on the cornor of College and Elm from 8-9:30PM. For more info call CBCI at 562-8035.
Tues. Feb. 25	**Wild Animals on N.H. Green?** Learn about pigeons and their use of the urban enviorenment on a "nature walk" with Doug Ryan. 3:30-5:30PM. Presented by the Teacher Center, 425 College St.,776-5987.
Feb. 25-March 2	**Man of La Mancha.** presented by the Albertus Magnus Theatre. Tickets are $2.50/student, $5/adult. For info call 865-9697.
Until Feb. 28	**Rotating Exhibit and Gallery Space.** The Arts Council of Greater New Haven, Inc. has opened a gallery at the renovated McLagen Foundry at 33 Whitney Av. The current show features: Miniture prints by 14 artists.
Until March 21	**Afro-American Cultural Center Art Exhibit Series.** N.H. photojournalist Jim Alexander, first in this series, will highlight his exhibit of photos with essays on Duke Ellington and other famous Black musicians. At the Afro-American Cultural Center, 211 Park St., 436-8700.
Every Week	**At the Women's Center.** Sundays at 2:30 Divorce and Seperation Rap Groups; Mondays at 5:30 Women's Self Defense and at 8:00 Lesbian Rap Group; Tuesdays at 8:00 Open Rap Group; Thursdays at 8:00 Women vs. Conn. and Abortion Referral Project Groups; Fridays from 3:30-5:30 Walk-In Counseling Service for Women. Visit or call the Women's Center, 415 Park St. 436-0272.

review

Cohabitation: New Name for Oldest Game?

by Karen Rosenberg
Modern Times Staff

Contract Cohabitation
An Alternative to Marriage
by Edmund L. Van Deusen
Grove Press, $6.95

Contract Cohabitation is a "handbook," complete with sample advertisements, for a male-female relationship based not on emotional fulfillment but on the satisfaction of precisely defined needs, such as housekeeping, shopping, and sex, in return for money. This idea is marketed, through slick oversell, as a new innovation.

Of course, it is not at all original: men have been paying prostitutes or supporting mistresses for centuries. The fact that this contract allows a woman to pay a man for his "services" has also been seen before, although less often: many royal ladies had their "favorites" and not a few society dames lavish presents on their young admirers.

Employer-Employee Relationship

Is "contract cohabitation" different because it requires the partners to sign a piece of paper? No, the agreement can be verbal, says the author. The fact that love is not a necessary part of the "C.C." relationship is not novel. There are plenty of loveless marriages in which the woman receives economic support while serving her husband as a maid, cook and nurse, all in one.

What is unusual, if not new, about **Contract Cohabitation** is that the employer-employee relationship is presented as the most perfect alternative for both people concerned. The author's account of his own love affairs provides some reasons for his choice of "C.C.." He is an insecure man, afraid of "losing his identity" in growing close to someone.

His words, "I am exuberantly *not* in love," reveal his desire for separation, not union. Consoling himself for his failure to love, he imagines a "fantasy ideal" with whom he would not feel threatened. An exaggerated, fantasized conception of himself as "a successful and creative person all my life" hides his perception of his own inadequacy.

These are some of the psychological factors which seem to explain why author Van Deusen chose such a controlled, limited, and clearly-defined relationship with a woman. But to understand why he believes that "contract cohabitation" is good for all people, not just those as emotionally troubled as he, one must examine his presuppositions about the employer-employee relationship.

Bad Economics

First, he believes that people work at only those jobs which fulfill their self-interest. This theory has obvious flaws: people are limited in their choice of employment by their age, mobility, education, sex, and numerous other factors.

....sign on the bottom line, please!

They do not always work at something they like. If they cannot find the job they desire, they take another in order to feed themselves and their families.

Van Deusen also thinks that money is not the chief reward in a job. "The salary has a symbolic importance," he writes, "but no amount of money, or lack of it, would create an effective relationship if the basic self-interests of both men were not satisfied." Now, I have never seen a poll on this subject, but I would bet that a lot of workers, perhaps even the most "effective ones," have money as their prime motivation for employment. Where does Van Deusen get the idea that management and workers are just one big, happy, satisfied family, motivated by the joy of labor? Maybe he should take a closer look at America.

Management's Politics

Van Deusen's concept of the employer-employee relationship is one-sided: he sees the situation from the perspective of the bosses. "The president's title gives him both the right and the responsibility to make certain decisions that affect the other man's work," says the author, meaning, simply, might makes right. This hierarchy of power is carried over to the "contract cohabitation" relationship between a man and a woman. He does not allow bargaining between the two partners: "One final characteristic of the employment contract is that it is *not* negotiable." No employee should settle for these terms in any job, and certainly not in a sexual relationship.

Contract Cohabitation is based on such an absurd economic theory that one wonders if the entire book was not meant as a joke. But no, Grove Press writes, in apparent seriousness, on the book jacket that "Contract Cohabitation is a revolutionary new lifestyle that will be cheered by both feminists and male chauvinists." I am disappointed that this publisher, in an economic period when fewer titles come out every year, should try to sell the public such an inferior product. I can only hope that its preposterous social and sexual theorizing will attract few buyers and that, next season, Grove Press will show some better judgment.

Board of Ed. & Super Play Hooky from Meeting

by Modern Times Staff

On Tuesday February 11, a public meeting was called at the Hall of Records at 7:30 pm to discuss the threat of cutbacks in education funding in the city. The meeting was called by the Committee for Advocacy, Research and Planning(CARP) a research arm of the NAACP.

Neither a representative of the New Haven Board of Education nor Superintendent of Schools George Barbarito were willing to attend the meeting. Their absence was noted by the 50 parents and teachers in attendance at almost every major part in the meeting.

Harriet Baily, a member of the Board of Education, but not representing that body at the meeting pointed out that the city spent 38.6% of its funds on education this year—down from 44.2% in 1970.

Clarence Jones of CARP pointed out that Mr. Barbarito had consented to a personal meeting. Barbarito, he reported, claimed that final figures on cuts would not be available for several weeks, but he was looking toward a change in the student teacher ratio from the current 21:1 to 28:1. Jones also reported that Barbarito was preparing for combined classes and elimination of course offerings in middle schools and high schools.

Educational Desert

Frank Carrano president of the New Haven Federation of Teachers claimed that Barbarito's proposed cutbacks would leave New Haven a "wasteland of educational opportunity."

He asked what is the future social and financial cost of saving money in education now. How much will it cost us in the future to miseducate our children now. In addition, Carrano maintained the quantity and quality of education can be controlled -why waste the opportunity. He characterized Guida's claims of fiscal belt tightening as educational strangulation.

Dr. Barry Herman, president of the School Administrators Association and principal of Winchester Community School opposed cutbacks that would increase class size. He maintained that the quality of education is proportional for many to class size.

Cliff Bush spoke for the Dixwell Neighborhood Corporation in opposing the cuts. He claimed that sooner or later we must all realize that "political decisions are economic decisions and economic decisions are political decisions." Until we come to grips with the issue of political power, he added, we will never have any control over such economic decisions as an education budget!

State Changing Names

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Abarbanel stated, "and we have the same right to give our names to our child. We certainly have a much clearer right to name Benjamin than Mr. Lloyd or Mr. Burdo."

Attorney Hill recently contacted Mr. Burdo to find out if other children in the state were being denied birth certificates because their parents had given both their surnames to the child. "Much to my surprise, Mr. Burdo said that Benjamin was the only baby without a birth certificate," Hill reported. "But when I asked him if this was the only case he had received in which both parents gave their child a hyphenated surname combined of both names, he said 'no.' In all other cases, he informed me that he had simply crossed out the mother's name. I was astonished to find a State official taking such arbitrary actions, and asked whether the parents had been contacted. Burdo responded that they had not been notified of his changes in their birth certificates."

Possible Legal Action

At this point Wolff and Abarbanel have no other recourse but to go to court to seek to have a judge order the State Health Commissioner register their child's birth certificate. "I cannot get over the cavalier attitude of state officials in this matter," Hill remarked. "Mr. Burdo has apparently no rational explanation for his actions. Yet he is sitting back waiting for a legal challenge, so that State taxpayers' money can be spent on an unnecessary lawsuit."

Wolff and Abarbanel are not the only parents affected by the State policy. When they found out about Mr. Burdo's practice of crossing out the mother's name in a hyphenated surname, they contacted another married couple, Rochelle Kessler and Mark Gerzon. Without their permission, and therefore illegally, the mother's name was scratched from their son's birth certificate. "If the State does not change its position, we have no other alternative but to explore the legal remedies we have against the State for falsifying our son's birth certificate," Gerzon said.

school notes

Alternatives to School Suspension

by Ruth Hein

Modern Times Staff

The only conceivable justification for suspending pupils from school is the need to separate "disruptive" influences from the other students. The inference is that such students irreparably interfere with the process of schooling. But the legal suspension of pupils, while easing the school day for the rest, does not serve an educational function for those who are summarily ejected from the process.

An alternative method that has been utilized in a few schools is "in-school suspension." This procedure removes students from regular classes but keeps them within the building, in a classroom set aside and staffed for the purpose.

On a smaller scale, Sheridan Middle School in New Haven had what was called a cooling-off room to contain children who were unruly in their own classroom. The room was said to be furnished nicely, with pillows and rugs, and held books and magazines. A teacher was always on duty, with whom the students—who were sent for an hour or two—were free to talk.

Even in the smallest elementary school a child is often sent to the pricipal's office, not primarily for punishment, but rather to provide some relief from a routine that has clearly become unbearable.

Many Advantages

In-school suspension is clearly an extension of the practice. Its advantages are obvious: the students remain within the confines of the school, where the system can perform its obligation of educating. The level of the in-school suspension, of course, can vary widely.

The suspension room can be simply used for several days' detention, where students sit dully at ordinary desks, doing rote writing—copying from arbitrary books—or are expected to fulfill their class assignments , though without benefit of class discussion or explanations.

A more protective form of in-school suspension was dramatized on that old TV show, **Room 222**(don't laugh; it was religiously watched by a good number of high-school teachers in America). There, the group of referred students participated in special projects and discussions, guided, not by a teacher, but by a trained counselor, with the ultimate aim of making them feel less rejected and raising their self-image.

In the rosy script, kids who felt they were stupid learned that they had special talents that they could share, others who were dedicated to asserting themselves at the expense of teachers learned respect and trust for adults, and so forth.

Different Behavior

While reality is seldom that simple, it would seem only reasonable that students who act out in the regular school program will alter their outlook and behavior when a different kind of attention is focused on them and when the pressures are shifted to different personality aspects.

In this sense, an in-school suspension can often result in a greater learning experience than regular classwork. The obvious drawback, of course, is money: not only does it require space—not such a problem nowadays, with falling enrollments—but also the salary of one or more fulltime teachers and counselors, who must spend a great deal of time with these students. Special materials may also be needed to carry out particular projects. The general shortage of funds only supports ingrained bureaucratic reluctance to underwrite new methods.

New Directions

If, then, for financial or other reasons, schools still insist on barring students from the school building for days, a way must be found to give these young people direction, to keep them off the streets, and to prevent their feeling outcast. I am reminded of a number of recent judicial rulings where the defendant, rather than being sent to jail, is sentenced to do good works; a doctor convicted of income tax evasion, for example, must work in a public-health clinic for a specified period.

Might it be possible, analogously, to assign children for a week or so to related social agencies ? A student automatically qualifying for suspension because of being drunk in school or found dealing in the locker room, for instance, could be assigned to a crisis center or a methadone clinic.

Since such places are notoriously understaffed and depend on volunteer work, the problem of interfering with a union's staffing or work rules would arise, as it does whenever it is suggested that students might be "disciplined" by being sent to paint the halls or replace broken windows.

Counseling Needed

Such work would, of course, require an open and positive attitude on the part of the student. This is where the school will have to make an additional effort to supply counseling and guidance to assure the students' cooperation.

These, then are two alternatives to suspension as normally practiced to the determent of the whole society. I would like very much to hear from teachers about other suggestions and possible objections to these.

Nick Heyer

Skip Goodman, Assistant Director of Alpha House, an adolescent drug treatment facility located at 74 Dwight St. Currently, Alpha House participates in many training activities with area colleges and human service agencies. Alpha House could be part of an alternative to school suspensions.

New Haven's Poor the Losers in Guida's Follies

by Modern Times Staff

New Haven's application for $17 million in Community Development Act (CDA) funds has been endorsed by the Board of Aldermen and submitted for federal approval. The purpose of the CDA is to "eliminate or prevent slums, blight, and deterioration and to provide improved community facilities, including health and social services." In short, the intent of the program is to provide services for people.

It is becoming obvious that the Guida administration has misguided priorities in its intentions for the use of CDA funds. For example, more money will be spent on "general administration" then on delivering services to New Haveners. Also, a large sum of money will go for the further industrial development of Long Wharf; definitely not a people oriented use of funds.

There are three primary requirements to be met by an applicant for CDA funds. They are: 1) compliance with the Civil Rights Acts as they apply to municipal employment patterns, what is commonly called affirmative action; 2) adequate citizen participation in the formulation of the plan; and 3) a state reveiw of the aplication.

The Guida Administration has failed to comply with two of the three criteria for funding. It has failed to implement an affirmative action plan for employment in New Haven. In fact, the NAACP has recently critized the city's government for the absence of such a plan.

Also there has been no citizen participation in the formulation of the CDA proposal. True, Guida did name a 17 member "community advisory panel." However, this group was made up of city employees and neighborhood organization executives and had no true community representation.

Many Sided Opposition

Opposition to Guida's attempt to exclude community input was voiced by the NAACP, the Black Women's Caucus, and United Way. Support for the package came from the inner city neighborhood corporations, with the exception of the United Newhallville Organization. The executive directors of the neighborhood corporations feared that if they "bucked city hall" they wouldn't receive any funds and be out of jobs themselves.

From this analysis, it is clear that CDA money will remain in the hands of the bureaucrats. All involved government agencies, from the federal to the neighborhood level seem to have worked together to exclude poor people from benefitting from CDA funds.

Barbarito: Jam 'em In

continued from page 1

tinues to ignore the demands of conderned parents, PTA's, and School Councils for improvements in the schools.

Fear or Solidarity?

The Superintendent's announcement of the possible elimination of 90 teaching positions has spread fear of layoffs among teachers and fear of overcrowded classes among both teachers and parents.

The New Haven Federation of Teachers has taken a strong stand against the elimination of any teaching positions in the city. The teachers' union suggests that the Board first look to the downtown administrators for financial savings. It seems that every time an administrator is promoted to a downtown position, he or she doesn't replace anyone; there is simply another assistant superintendent. Each of these superintendents, in terms of salaries, is equivalent to three classroom teachers.

Attrition vs. Layoff

If the city decides to eliminate teaching positions, it will probably use attrition rather than layoff. Most city teachers are protected by a contractural "no-layoff" clause, but the turnover rate for teachers is about 10% per year.

The NHFT claims that in the end, a cutback of 90 teaching slots will mean a drastic reduction in the depth and diversity of education in the city. Large classes mean that the most disadvantaged children are left behind.

Into the Budget

Ultimately, the education of the city's children must take priority over sports arenas and parking garages. The city recently passed up a chance to spend $17 million in Federal Community Development money for educational purposes.

The whole budget and budget making process must be opened to the public. The closed door deliberations of the Board of finance and the last minute pressure on the Board of Aldermen are not the ways for the public to pressure its elected officials to put money into education.

on the job
Fighting Discrimination is My Job

by Felicita Monert and Laurie Nussdorfer

I work at the New Haven office of the State Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities as a "community relations specialist(CRS)". I don't really like that term. When I was hired I thought I would be a "community worker."

I wanted to work directly with people, to actually help them in a situation, to go with them to straighten things out. But I was told,"we're not a social service agency." The Commission is trying to get away from helping people in that way. I guess we're supposed to send them to an agency that will.

Any kind of problem where there is discrimination on the basis of sex, race, religion, age, or nationality is sent to us. Cases are referred to us by other agencies and we make referrals ourselves, or give information or "technical assistance." There isn't always the law to back up complaints so a lot of things related to the laws the Commission enforces are done as a "request for assistance."

There are four of us on the staff-an investigator and three community relations specialists-and also a secretary. An investigator is sent out if there is a case with evidence that could be taken into court. Where there is less clear evidence of discrimination the CRS gets the problem.

Often Disappointing

Most of what's given us is a lost cause there's not much we can do . We can only deal with cases of **discrimination,** not just **unfairness,** but those kind come to us frequently. People have to know which are the things they should complain to us about.

I've been working for the commission only for three months and I don't feel I know everything there is to know about it. I hope I don't always keep having very disappointing cases. Recently, a woman who wanted to start a Spanish-speaking women's group came to us for advice. I like that, to help start something and see it grow and get somewhere.

Right now our office is in space borrowed from the Art Department at South Central Community College-in the old armoury on Orange Street. The New Haven office has only been around since October and for awhile only had one telephone. We're going to move and have a news conference,but until now the commission hasn't had much publicity.

Employment is the Big One

The main issues that come up are in employment and public accomodattion. If a person is being treated unfairly on the job-say, a Puerto Rican is on a machine and gets shifted every day, but a co-worker does not-we try to figure out if he is being mistreated and discriminated against because he is a Perto Rican. We go to the top person-the personnel manager or the president-who has to give us information, the work record, other people's patterns working on the same job, the company's policies and practices.

If I were in charge I would make sure the Commission enforced the law for all people. I wish they could put more emphasis on the cpmplaints of Spanish-speaking people. I think there should be more sensitivity to women's rights and problems. I would try to get the agency publicized and make sure the information on cases got out. I think it would be an improvement if paraprofessionals like me got some kind of significant training and were given a good idea of what we're suposed to be doing.

The most powerful thing we have are the laws. When you say you're from the Commission on Human Rights the directors get a little nervous and, when you get a good case, you can get the law enforced. If there were more laws it would be better. One of our problems is publicizing the cases. It's up to the media how much attention they get-whether it is a front page story of just a little filler. So we can't really be a threat to discrimination in a big way-just complaint by complaint.

The Commission on Human Rights can be reached at 562-2168 and 562-2169;

Laurie Nussdorfer

Felicita Monert

Faculty Blames Waller

continued from page 1

Waller himself instituted his own long range planning board.

The faculty association conducted a survey to find out when the students wanted to go to school, meaning the days and hours that appealed to them. When the survey was finished and the results were given to Waller, he dismissed it as a "blunder and a discredit to the Faculty Association".

Charge 4. Autocratic decision making.

Waller never discussed SCCC's relocation with the faculty or the students. This means that Waller made the decision to move, and then advised the rest of the school community. In his publication, "Our Choice for a Home", Waller attempts to inform the general public of the procedures and problems of finding a new site. The implication was that the entire school, students, faculty, and administration, were involved in the finding of a new site. The charges indicate that this is not the case, but community relations were the motive behind such a report. The students and the faculty seemed to have no say in the decision-making process.

When Waller first took over his Presidency, he abolished the College Council, which consisted of students, faculty, and administrative personnel. Its function was to communicate to each other, and hopefully settle the problems of SCCC. Since that time no regular college forum has been maintained to deal with SCCC's problems.

Charge 5. Conflict of interest.

It is a known fact that (during his tenure at SCCC) Waller has occupied the presidencies of two companies which work out of the Park Plaza Hotel. He has a controlling interest in a firm called Waller-Dee, a distributorship of self-motivating materials, and Wallte, a janitorial service. Up until a year ago, a phone with a direct line to the answering services of these companies was located at 111 Whitney Avenue in the administrative offices of SCCC. It is also charged that Waller has offered state employees positions in these companies, and that materials of these companies were sold on state property and to state employees. It seems likely that some people involved in these transactions will testify against Waller at the hearings in February.

Charge 6. Ineffectiveness in interpersonal relationships.

Of the many documents that I saw, the one written by a faculty member best illustrates this point. After a meeting, Waller was talking to several people and was heard calling several members of a department "Shitheads". Several faculty members complain of similar public put-downs by their President.

Charge 7. Misuse of funds.

From 1970 to 1972, the Federal Government gave money to SCCC to develop an Individualized Study Program. The money was only to be used for this purpose, and no other. However, several teachers that were paid with Federal funds taught in the regular school as well as the special programs. In other words, they had two jobs but were being paid only by the Federal Government. In 1972, the title of the program was changed to All-College Individualized Study Program, thereby enabling the money to be spent on a wider base. The only problem was that there was no written permission for this change.

Waller's Defense.

Prior to the two investigations, Waller issued a document called "A Case for the People" which was intended to answer these allegations. The document only responds to the charge of "Misuse of Funds" with a specific refutation. There, Waller states, "Lest there be some misunderstanding, I am pleased to report to the reader that neither I nor any person representing my firm has sold or attempted to sell to any college or educational institution within the State of Connecticut."

In 1973, Dr. Searles Charles, Executive Director of the Board of Community Colleges, the full-time, $40,000 a year state employee who hired Waller, investigated Waller and found nothing. However, the volunteer members of the Board and the Faculty Association and the CEA have found it necessary to continue the investigation.

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